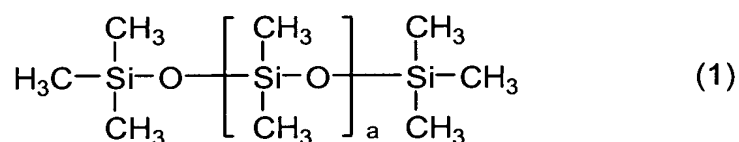


IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

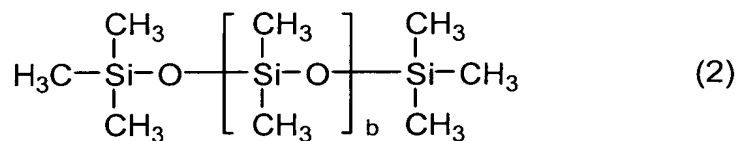
Claim 1 (Original): An oil-in-water type hair cosmetic composition obtained by dispersing, in an aqueous phase containing an emulsifier, droplets of a mixture of the below-described Components (A) and (B) and droplets of a mixture of the below-described Components (A) and (C):

(A) a dimethylpolysiloxane represented by the following formula (1):



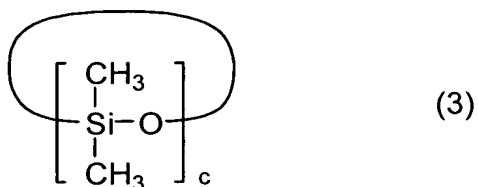
wherein, a stands for a number-average polymerization degree ranging from 1,000 to 20,000

(B) a dimethylpolysiloxane represented by the following formula (2):



wherein, b stands for a number-average polymerization degree ranging from 10 to 800

(C) a cyclic dimethylpolysiloxane represented by the following formula (3):



wherein, c stands for a number-average polymerization degree ranging from 3 to 7.

Claim 2 (Original): The oil-in-water type hair cosmetic composition of Claim 1, which is prepared by the following steps 1 to 4:

Step 1: mixing Components (A) and (B) to prepare a silicone mixture (AB),

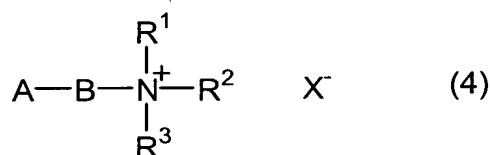
Step 2: mixing Components (A) and (C) to prepare a silicone mixture (AC),

Step 3: mixing an emulsifier, the other components to be incorporated in the hair cosmetic composition, and water to prepare a base composition, and

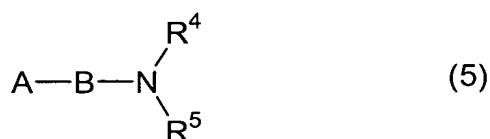
Step 4: adding and mixing, in the base composition, the silicone mixture (AB) and the silicone mixture (AC) without dissolving each other and forming droplets of the silicone mixture (AB) and droplets of the silicone mixture (AC) in the aqueous phase of the hair cosmetic composition.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The ~~aqueous~~ oil-in-water type hair cosmetic composition of Claim 1 or 2, wherein the emulsifier contains Component (D):

(D) a quaternary ammonium salt represented by the following formula (4):



wherein, A represents a hydrogen atom or a linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated amide, N-hydrocarbon carbamoyl, acyloxy or hydrocarbon oxy group having 12 to 24 carbon atoms in total, B represents a divalent, linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon group having 1 to 22 carbon atoms, at least one of R¹, R² and R³ represents a linear or branched alkyl or alkenyl group having 1 to 24 carbon atoms in total and the remaining one or two represents an alkyl group having 1 to 3 carbon atoms and X⁻ represents a halide ion or organic anion, or a tertiary amine compound represented by the formula:



wherein, A and B have the same meanings as described above, and R4 and R5 each independently represents an alkyl group having 1 to 4 carbon atoms, or salt thereof.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The ~~aqueous~~ oil-in-water type hair cosmetic composition of ~~any one of Claims 1 to 3~~ Claim 1, further comprising a higher alcohol as Component (E).

Claim 5 (Original): A preparation process of an oil-in-water type hair cosmetic composition, which comprises the following steps 1 to 4:

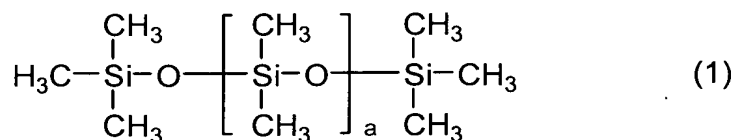
Step 1: mixing Components (A) and (B) to prepare a silicone mixture (AB),

Step 2: mixing Components (A) and (C) to prepare a silicone mixture (AC),

Step 3: mixing an emulsifier, the other components to be incorporated in the hair cosmetic composition, and water to prepare a base composition, and

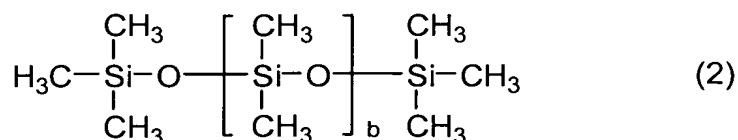
Step 4: adding and mixing, in the base composition, the silicone mixture (AB) and the silicone mixture (AC) without dissolving each other and forming droplets of the silicone mixture (AB) and droplets of the silicone mixture (AC) in the aqueous phase of the hair cosmetic composition.

(A) a dimethylpolysiloxane represented by the following formula (1):



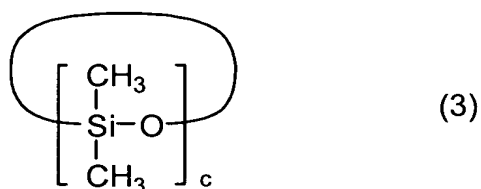
wherein, a stands for a number-average polymerization degree ranging from 1000 to 20000

(B) a dimethylpolysiloxane represented by the following formula (2):



wherein, b stands for a number-average polymerization degree ranging from 10 to 800

(C) a cyclic dimethylpolysiloxane represented by the following formula (3):



wherein, c stands for a number-average polymerization degree ranging from 3 to 7.

Claim 6 (Original): The preparation process of an oil-in-water type hair cosmetic composition according to Claim 5, wherein in the silicone mixture (AB), Component (A) and Component (B) are mixed at a weight ratio (A):(B) ranging from 1:1 to 1:10, while in the silicone mixture (AC), Component (A) and Component (C) are mixed at a weight ratio (A):(C) ranging from 1:1 to 1:10.

Claim 7 (Original): The preparation process of an oil-in-water type hair cosmetic composition according to Claim 5 or 6, wherein the silicone mixture (AB) and the silicone mixture (AC) are mixed at a weight ratio (AB):(AC) ranging from 1:4 to 4:1.

Claim 8 (New): The oil-in-water type hair cosmetic composition of Claim 2, further comprising a higher alcohol as Component (E).

Claim 9 (New): The oil-in-water type hair cosmetic composition of Claim 3, further comprising a higher alcohol as Component (E).